

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
16 June 2005 (16.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/054253 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C07D 498/18**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/IN2003/000383
- (22) International Filing Date: 5 December 2003 (05.12.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
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- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Declaration under Rule 4.17:**
— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*
- Published:**
— *with international search report*
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PURIFICATION OF MACROLIDES

(57) Abstract: Process for the recovery of a macrolide in substantially pure form comprising: a) treatment of an impure or crude macrolide with water immiscible solvent, b) optional concentration of the mixture, c) treatment with ammonia gas to phase out impurities, d) separation of impurities, d) optional concentration of the phase containing the macrolide, f) loading on silica gel chromatography, optionally reversed phase or pretreated with silver, and elution of the macrolide, g) affording the macrolide in substantially pure form, h) optional repetition of step f) and g) to afford the macrolide in substantially pure form. The macrolide is preferably tacrolimus, immunomycin or sirolimus.



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